

VISIT...

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM

HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

Vocabulary Readers

Helping Wild Animals



by Clint McGinnis

Number of Words: 582

PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

Cover © Lightscares Photography, Inc./Corbis. **Cover, 1-12** (bkgd) © Getty Images. **1** © Photowood Inc./Corbis. **3** © Roger Tidman/Corbis. **4-5** © Photowood Inc./Corbis. **6-7** © Richard Hamilton Smith/Corbis. **8** © Reuters/Corbis. **9** © Lightscares Photography, Inc./Corbis. **10** © HMCo./Studio Montage. **11** © Bob Krist/Corbis. **12** © Ian Shaw/Getty Images.

Copyright © 2006 by Houghton Mifflin Company. All right reserved.

No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying or recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system without the prior written permission of Houghton Mifflin Company unless such copying is expressly permitted by federal copyright law. Address inquiries to School Permissions, Houghton Mifflin Company, 222 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA 02116.

Printed in the U.S.A.

ISBN: 0-618-64975-1

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 B 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 07 06 05

Helping Wild Animals



by Clint McGinnis



Strategy Focus

How can you help an animal in danger?
As you read, **monitor** your understanding.
Reread to **clarify** any parts that are unclear.



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

BOSTON

Key Vocabulary

commute to travel back and forth
regularly

hover to remain close by

interfering getting in the way of

permitted allowed

resettling coming to rest again;
settling in a new place

subtle not easy to notice

volunteers people who work
without pay

Word Teaser

You'll make your car horn *toot*,
If you've got a long _____.

You are walking through the park. You hear a rustle in the bushes. You peer behind a branch. It's a bird! It's trying to fly away, but it can't. Its wing seems to be broken.

What should you do?



Wild animals get hurt every day. Sometimes car drivers hit an animal during the daily commute to work. Birds may fly into the closed windows of a building. In the country, animals may be attacked by other animals.



When people see a wild animal that is hurt, they often want to help. But they might also be afraid of **interfering** with, or getting in the way of, nature. They may have heard that mothers won't return to a baby that has been handled by humans.





If you see a wild animal in trouble, the best thing to do is contact an expert. Many groups in the United States work to help animals. You can call one of them for information. They can help you decide what to do.



PAWS, in Washington State, is one group that cares for injured animals. The letters in PAWS stand for Progressive Animal Welfare Society. PAWS has cared for thousands of birds and animals of every shape and size, from small owls to very large bears.

All animal welfare groups believe that it is important to keep wild animals wild. They don't think that people should be **permitted**, or allowed, to keep wild animals as pets. For this reason, the people at PAWS try to treat sick animals as fast as possible. That way, the animals won't forget how to live in nature. If the animals are cared for and released quickly, **resettling** in nature, or getting used to it again, shouldn't take long.



If you call PAWS about an injured bird, you may talk to an employee or a **volunteer** who works without pay. This person will ask questions about the bird. You'll need to look for **subtle** details, or things that aren't easy to notice at first.

For example, are you sure the bird is injured? If the bird looks like a baby, it may not have learned to fly yet. Maybe it fell out of its nest! If you see a larger bird **hover**, or fly around nearby, that may be the baby's mother.





According to PAWS, you should try to put a baby bird back in its nest. Its parents won't reject it just because you have touched it.

If you can't find the bird's nest, you can make one for it. Just line a small basket or box with grass or straw. Then put on a pair of protective gloves and gently move the bird into the nest. Place the nest high in a tree branch. Then watch to see if a parent bird comes to feed it. If the parents don't come all day, call a wildlife group for advice.



Sometimes the wildlife group will tell you that the animal needs to be treated by a vet. They may tell you how to safely transport the animal to an animal hospital. Remember to be careful when handling wild creatures. Always find an adult to help you. Even a sick or injured animal may be dangerous.

There are other ways to help wild animals, too. Visit a group that cares for wildlife. Volunteer to help. Make posters about caring for hurt animals. Write a newsletter about wild animals. And be kind to all animals, whether they are sick or well, or wild or tame!



Responding

Putting Words to Work

1. For what kind of group might you like to **volunteer**?
2. If you find a bird that seems to be hurt, what is one **subtle** detail you should look for?
3. How do animal groups help animals **resettle** in the wild?
4. Complete the following sentence:
I would like to be **permitted** to _____ because _____.
5. **PARTNER ACTIVITY:** Think of a word you learned in the text. Explain its meaning to your partner and give an example.

Answer to Word Teaser

commute

Word Builder

Birds fly and **hover**, and so do bees. Horses trot. What other words describe the way animals move? Copy the chart below. In the first column, add more kinds of animals. In the second column, add one or more words to describe how they move.

Kind of Animal	How It Moves
bird	flies, hovers

Write About It

Write a paragraph about kinds of animals you would like to see. Use your imagination, and use as much description as you can. Use at least two words from your Word Builder chart.

Key Vocabulary

commute
hover
interfering
permitted
resettling
subtle
volunteers

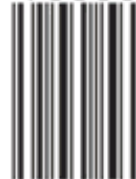
6.3.4

ISBN 0-618-64975-1



9 780618 649754

9 0000



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

1-31253